

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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JUNE 16, 1923

RED SOX HAND DRUBBING TO TIGERS

Score Seven Runs in Fourth to Win 9 to 1

By James C. O'Leary, The Boston Globe

The Red Sox defeated the Tigers yesterday in the final game of the series, 9 to 1. Both sides were more anxious to win the particular game than any of the three played, Ty Cobb and the Tigers, because Ehmke, their ex-teammate, had trimmed them on their own grounds in a 10-inning battle, and Ehmke and his fellow players, because of Cobb's mixup with Ehmke after that same game.

Ehmke and his crowd had the satisfaction of repeating, and it may safely be assumed that it was some satisfaction. From the moment the game started there was a tenseness noticeable among the players on both sides, which was communicated to upward of 14,000 spectators, 1000 of whom were Veterans of Foreign Wars, and there was no relaxation until the fourth frame, when the Red Sox had a big inning and pulled up seven runs.

After that the Red Sox and their supporters felt they were sitting pretty and regarded the game as sewed up, especially as Ehmke was pitching great ball.

As a matter of fact, he has been doing games and is charged with the loss of four, but would have won two or three of those charged up against him if he had been, given proper support early in the season.

Cobb's Efforts All in Vain

Cobb probably was more anxious to win yesterday than any other man on the Detroit club. He was out on the coaching lines at first base where he had a license to make some remarks for Ehmke's benefit. He scored the only run made by his club, leading off with a triple in the fourth inning, but while he tried hard enough on his other three times at bat, he did nothing more in the way of stickwork. The last time up he popped up a puny fly which Mitchell gathered in. While the ball was still in the air, and "Ty" had refused to run out the hit, he was given "the laugh" by Devormer, and then said something to which the Boston catcher took offense, and started for Cobb as if he were going to settle it man fashion.

It looked for a moment as if there was going to be something doing, but Bill Dinneen grabbed Devormer. Tommy Connolly came rushing in from the bases, and took Cobb in hand, while Ormsby stood by as a sort of reserve.

The excitement subsided: Cobb went to the outfield and Devormer to the bench. the situation was well handled by the officials.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars did not arrive until after the game was under way, and the fans were so intensely interested in the ball game that they probably did not receive the demonstration that would have been given them if they had come earlier.

As they passed through the stand with their flags and band, they were enthusiastically cheered, and the spectators arose from their seats and uncovered as they passed, after which it was a case of "on with the dance."

The game was a good one and was enjoyed by the veterans as much as by any of the other thousands present, and they were on hand to see the grand assault by the Red Sox in the fourth inning.

Harris Hits Over Fence

Joe Harris poled one out yesterday that Heilmann didn't gather in - or anyone else either, unless it was somebody who happened to be over on the railroad tracks beyond Landsdowne st - when Joseph eased the ball high over the fence in left center field. It was a longer hit than Heilmann made the day before. Joe has been hitting in such tough luck lately that he was about due to do something like this.

Besides pitching a masterly game, Ehmke did some good stickwork, making two hits in his four times up, one of them scoring two runs. Some timely hitting was also done by Reichie, Flagstead and Mitchell.

Fewster turned in the fielding feature and thereby robbed Manush of a hit.

Cobb used four pitchers, Pillette, Cole, Collins and Wells, the last two being southpaws. It is a question now if he did not pull out Pillette too soon. Collins did no better than Pillette would have done, if as well, and it was off Cole that harris made the home run.

Tigers Never in Going

The weather conditions were ideal. but the air seemed surcharged with the rivalry of the cobatanta in this particular game, and as the game got underway every player was on his toes and the spectators were as tense as fiddlestrings.

Henley, the first man to face Ehmke, popped up a fly near second base and there was a groan when Fewster lost the ball in the sun and ducked out from under it. It seemed a bad omen for Ehmke. This, however, was the only hit made off the ex-Tiger until Bassler bent out a grounder to McMillan in the third, and while a sacrifice followed in each case, neither Haney nor Bassler reached third.

A single by Shanks in the second and one by Ehmke in the

third, which Cobb gave a battle and came near making a sensational diving catch of, was all that the Red Sox could do against Pillette in the first three frames.

In the fourth Cobb was the first man up, and the crowd howled with delight, as Ehmke shot over a couple of called strikes on him. Their delight was frostbitten a moment later, when Cobb tripled past first base along the same direction, scoring Cobb, but was out when he tried to stretch the hit to a triple, Flagstead to Fewster to McMillan.

Heilmann singled, but Rigney hit into a double play, Ehmke, Mitchell and Harris participating. Ehmke's only assistance in the double killing being that he barely touched the ball as it shot through the pitcher's box.

The only visiting players to reach first base after this were Bassler in the fifth and Heilmann in the seventh, and both did so on passes.

Sox Have Wild Fourth

The Red Sox made their killing in the fourth. Shanks, the first man up, was passed. Harris singled. Flagstead, an ex-Tiger, who like Ehmke was anxious to beat his old teammates, doubled, scoring Shanks. "Rip" Collins then relieved Pillette. Fewster scoring after the catch, and Flagstead moving to third.

McMillan drew a base on balls, and went to second on a short passed ball; Ehmke singled through the closed up infield, scoring Flagstead and McMillan, and the crowd which had been howling almost constantly from the beginning of the rally, let out a yell that shook the stand, and another when Mitchell singled. Collins, ex-Red Sox was getting his, but he got a breathing spell when he struck out Demorver, but was immediately in trouble again when Reichie singled, scoring Ehmke and Mitchell, and Shanks, the second time up in the inning doubled. Cutshaw brought the slaughter to a close when he tossed out Harris.

Harris' home run against the pitching of Cole in the seventh, and a single by McMillan, an out and a double, against the pitching of Wells in the eighth developed the other two runs made by the Red Sox.

JULY 1, 1970

YAZ, SCOTT LIFT SOX, 6-5

By Clif Keane, The Boston Globe

Joe Coleman of Natick dug out of trouble fairly well for awhile at Fenway Park last night, but the Senators' righthander finally buried himself. Two-run homers by Carl Yastrzemski and George Scott in the seventh carried the Red Sox to a 6-5 win before 22,218.

Manager Ted Williams was probably kicking himself for having left Coleman on the mound as long as he did. Coleman threw 130 pitches and had jams all along the way.

It might have been Coleman's display of brashness for daring to be different and not go along with Williams' genius that got him beating last night. If Williams knew what was going to happen, things might have been different.

Mika Nagy, who still hasn't completed a game this year, had a 6-2 lead after the blasts of Carl and Scott. But he needed a

lot of help. Vicente Romo couldn't handle the assignment in the eighth, and Sparky Lyle was saved by a good catch by Tony Conigliaro, who took a homer away from Frank Howard against the Red Sox bullpen in the ninth.

Coleman's catcher, little Jim French, was diving for balls all night, and the squat guy looked as though he were heading for fox holes about 20 times. But Coleman somehow got through the troubles with only two runs in six innings.

The Sox scored a run in the first inning when Yastrzemski doubled to left, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on French's bad throw to third.

The Senators went ahead in the third when Frank Howard lined a single off the centerfield wall after a walk, single and wild pitch put men on second and third.

In the fourth, the Sox needed four hits to get a run. Rico Petrocelli singled and Scott hit into a double play. But consecutive singled by Billy Conigliaro, Jerry Moses and Nagy brought in the tying run.

Coleman and Nagy got into the seventh in their 2-2 tie but it hardly was a pitching masterpiece by either pitcher. Suddenly things happened to Coleman.

Reggie Smith swung at Coleman's first pitch and lined a double off the wall in left center. With the count 3-2 on Yastrzemski, Smith broke for third and Carl knocked the pitch into the Washington bullpen for his 18th homer. Coleman managed to get Tony Conigliaro out but a single by Rico Petrocelli and Scott's homer over everything followed. Williams even let Coleman be tapped for a single by Billy Conigliaro before he yanked the youngster.

Next time Coleman will have to be careful how he talks about his manager, Joe, in the afternoon, had dare say he didn't agree with Williams on how a game should be pitched.

But with the 6-2 lead, the Sox had to lean on their bullpen again - and that is hardly akin to making a trip to the bank.

In the eighth, Nagy fanned Howard, but Mike Epstein walked and Aurelio Rodriguez singled. When Bernie Allen walked - so did Nagy.

Romo managed to fan Eddie Brinkman and his baby hat, but French singled in Epstein and pinch-hitter Del Unser walked, forcing in Rodriguez.

Out came Romo and Lyle got Rick Reichardt on a fly to Tony.

In the ninth, Howard hit his long drive to right. Tony jumped at the barrier and one-handed the ball. It would have gone into the bullpen.

Epstein doubled off the fence in left and Rodriguez got his second single as Smith made a weird blunder.

The center fielder picked up the ball and made an on-the-fly throw home. The play was to throw to second to cut down the tying run. But Smith's throw went wide, Epstein scored and Rodriguez went on to second. Paul Casanova ended the agony with a fly to Tony.

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APRIL 29, 1987

SOX BATS COME TO LIFE, 11-5

Greenwell, Baylor, Evans smash HRs

By Larry Whiteside, The Boston Globe

SEATTLE - The Red Sox, who had been mired in a slump that saw them swept in their last two series (at Texas and Oakland), came out thundering in the Kingdome last night and held a commanding 11-3 lead over the Mariners in the eighth inning.

Boston jumped on Mike Moore for four runs in the first inning and came back for four more in the second with a rash of base hits.

Moore deserved a better fate. He had two out in the first inning, with Bill Buckner on base, when Don Baylor hit what appeared to be a routine grounder to first. But it wasn't a routine play for Alvin Davis, who misplayed the twisting hop, and it rolled past him for an error. A walk to Evans loaded the bases.

That brought up Mike Greenwell, filling in for injured Jim Rice. After getting just one hit in his first 11 at-bats (nine games), Greenwell came through with flying colors, drilling a single off the wall in right, scoring Buckner and Baylor. Glenn Hoffman stepped up and doubled to right, scoring Evans. When Marc Sullivan, back in the lineup after missing four games, singled to center, Greenwell scored. Hoffman was thrown out trying to come home from second on the play, but Boston led, 4-0.

The Red Sox doubled the score in the second inning and in dramatic fashion, too. Moore's night ended quickly enough. A single by Dave Henderson, a walk to Wade Boggs and a single by Marty Barrett produced a 5-0 lead. Moore was replaced by Rich Monteleone, who seemed to have things in hand as Buckner hit into a double play.

But then the cannons roared. Baylor stroked a deep drive over the left field fence about 12 rows deep in the stands. Evans stepped up and hit another blast. This one barely cleared the fence for his third home run of the year.

Seattle finally made a dent in the bottom of the second. Davis doubled off the wall in left with two out and Mike Kingery followed with his first home run of year.

But Boston was right back at it in the third, pushing across another run to make it a 9-2 game. Henderson started it with his second hit of the night. He moved up a base on a walk to Boggs, and scored as Barrett dribbled a single through the box.

In the fourth, the beating continued as Greenwell smashed his first home run of the season -- and third hit of the night -- a two-run shot that gave the Red Sox an 11-2 lead.

The Mariners pushed across another un on a solo home run by Alvin Davis.

The Red Sox really needed a boost after Tuesday night's 7-1 loss in Oakland stretched their losing streak to five games, their longest since August 1985.

Jeff Sellers did an admirable job in a role that should be filled by Oil Can Boyd. He was hanging on after six innings in a 2-1 game. But by the eighth he was in the locker room, and Oakland had added five runs, three off reliever Calvin Schiraldi,

who is having his problems as both the closer and setup man.

"I felt that I pitched good," said Sellers, "but I can't be pleased with a loss."

It didn't matter that Sellers was pitching well, because his teammates had fallen into a woeful batting slump. In 20 2/3 innings, only five baserunners had reached second base.

One was Rice, who hit a home run Monday, and a second was Barrett, who was on base at the time. On Tuesday night, Evans became the third as he walked, moved to third on an error and scored on Barrett's single.

The next two times came long after the fact -- when Boston trailed by six runs. Hoffman walked and moved up a base in the eighth inning. In the ninth, Barrett stole second. Hardly the devastating attack that was the scourge of the AL East a year ago.

For six innings, the Red Sox waltzed with Oakland and somehow kept it close. They got a break when Oakland starter Joaquin Andujar, after throwing only 15 pitches was forced to leave the game because of a sore arm. But the break turned into a nightmare when Dennis Eckersley took over for six innings of scoreless relief work.

"I knew I would get into the game," said Eckersley, "because Andujar was only going to get five or six innings. But I didn't expect it to be in that soon."

"I felt pretty good on the mound. Even though I'd rather be a starter, I've got no complaints."

Sellers was finished after he gave up a triple to leadoff man Stan Javier and a single to Mike Gallego in the seventh. Schiraldi took over and, after Alfredo Griffin struck out, Lou Polonia hit his first major league home run. Tony Phillips walked and Reggie Jackson delighted the crowd with a vintage home run blast to left.

"Nothing is going right for us right now," said McNamara after Tuesday's loss, "and it makes it difficult for our pitchers when we don't score runs. But we've been through this before and it requires patience. We'll just wait until the hitting comes around."

"I know we're not hitting," said McNamara. "But this is the same team we had last year, and I really don't see any reason that they can't turn things around. It's not just one man. It's everybody, and we have to be patient."

The Red Sox were completely out of synch. On Monday, the Red Sox looked foolish trying a hit-and-run with Baylor. In the fourth inning Tuesday, the Oakland fans were laughing at the sight of a hit-and-run attempt with Bill Buckner on base, though he, sad to say, is Boston's best base-stealing threat now that Spike Owen has been benched.

Buckner broke for second four times with Rice and Baylor batting and all were false starts because of foul balls. When Baylor dumped a fly ball to short center, Buckner found himself too far up the line, and could not make it back without being doubled up at first.

AUGUST 29, 1940

BEES STOP CUBS BEHIND POSEDEL

By Hy Hurwitz, The Boston Globe

CHICAGO - Porthole Bill Posedel came through with another brilliant pitching performance here this afternoon as he

twirled the Boston Bees to a 3-to-1 victory over the Chicago Cubs in Boston's farewell appearance on Western soil this season.

Limiting the Cubs to five hits, Posedel had no difficulty in chalking up his 10th triumph of the year and his second in succession. He was accorded perfect support in the field, particularly by Gene Moore and Max West, and was in but one tight spot during the entire season.

The amazing Johnny Cooney led the Boston attack on Jake Mooty with a trio of singles and scored two of the Bees runs and put the Bees in a scoring position for the other tally. Boston made nine hits off Mooty, Bama Rowell, Chet Ross and Gene Moore getting two apiece.

One Bad Session

Posedel had one bad session, the fourth, when the Cubs made three of their five hits and received one of Bill's three passes to score their lone tally. He had set down the first 11 hitters to face him when Zeke Bonura slapped Posedel for the first Chicago hit of the game.

The Bees made a flying getaway in their farewell game here, scoring a run in the first frame, and threatening to chase Mooty to an early shower. After Albie Glossop fanned, Cooney and Rowell singled in succession. West was passed and Mooty uncorked a wild pitch, permitting Cooney to score. A walk to Ross reloaded the sacks, but Mooty bore down to whiff Eddie Miller and Moore, for a rare inning, during which he walked two, allowed two hits, made a wild pitch and fanned three.

Posedel's chances for a perfect game were wrecked with two out in the fourth when Bonura singled, Zeke moved to second on Hank Leiber's single and scored when Jim Gleeson doubled to right field. Dominic D'Allessandro walked, loading the cushions but Bob Collins was an easy out on a pop fly to West.

The Cubs made their other two hits in the fifth inning, both being infield taps. He escaped unscored upon when Mooty was trapped off second on an alert play by West in Collaboration with Rowell.

That Cooney man launched the Bees' tie-dissolving rally in the fifth with a single. Rowell hit a wicked grounder on which Billy Herman made a marvelous glove-hand stop to his left and threw out Bama at first by an eyelash, as Cooney went to second. After West lined out to Herman, Ross singled to right scoring Cooney.

Boston's final run was picked up in the ninth. Mooty started the chapter by walking Albie Glossop. Cooney singled over the close-covering Hack's head, putting Glossop on second. On a hit-and-run play, Rowell slapped one to short, forcing Cooney at second. West skied to Gleeson in deep right, Cooney coming him with the third marker.

HIT AND RUN

The Bees hopped an early evening train out of here and will be back in Boston at 5:25 tomorrow. . . .They open a brief home stay Saturday against the Phillies with Nick Strincevich as the probable pitcher.

Gene Moore made two fine catches in right field, running over to the foul line for a liner by Herman in the fourth and coming in fast for a loft by Mattick in the fifth.

APRIL 27, 1944

TOBIN HURLS NO-HITTER, HOMERS AGAINST BROOKLYN

By Jerry Nason, The Boston Globe

James Anthony Tobin, 32, the unmistakably Irish knuckleball pitcher for the Braves, hurled a hallelulah no-hit shutout against the Brooklyn Dodgers yesterday afternoon.

It was the first no-hitter in the major leagues since Lon Warneke, the angular hill William, then toiling for the Cards, pitched a 2-0 epic against the reds on Aug. 30, '41.

Tobin's likewise was a 2-0 stint. Connie Ryan's double off the centerfield wall in the third inning, and Chuck Workman's subsequent single, gave Tobe a working edge on Fritz Ostermueller, the Red Sox alumnus.

Then ol' Never-Fear, the pitcher who bashed three home runs in one game May 13, 1942, personally attended to the other run by powering a homer on a dead line over the left field wall. That was in the eighth inning, and the skimpy gathering (2034) who realized a life's ambition yesterday, gave Tobin an ovation.

With the nonchalance of a man out mowing the lawn, Tobin pitched to only 29 batters. One reached first base. That was Paul Glee Waner, the patriarch of the pastures. Paul got on base twice. He was passed as the first batter of the game. And he was passed again in the ninth, when Tobin was one putout away from history.

With the wind and the weather just where he wanted it, Tobin sent a torrent of "butterfly" pitches (knucklers) dipping, fluttering and staggering across the plate.

He hurled the ball 98 times. The vast majority of the pitches were of the knuckle variety, called "butterfly" by himself, but by the opposition referred to in terms not fitting for a family journal.

Retires 26 in a Row

Between Waner's base on balls in the first inning, and his second with two out in the ninth, the shaggy specialist of the Braves staff turned back 26 batters in a row. He struck out 6 of them. Only six balls were hit out of the infield and the Braves outfield patrol snared them all in routine fashion.

There wasn't a real spectacular defensive play in the game. The thing most closely resembling a hit was a bunt by rookie Bill Hart of the Dodgers in the second inning.

It was a lovely bunt - for a distance of about 30 feet. It was buzzing along six inches inside the third-base foul line. Connie Ryan and Tobe, himself, congregated around it. Suddenly it veered to the left and trickled a few inches into foul territory - where Tobin hastily pinned it down!

For the record: The last no-hitter in Boston by a local pitcher was the effort by Ernie Shore of the Red Sox, who, on June 23, 1917, pitched a 4-0 whizzer against the Washington Senators.

Hie Homer One for Books

Tommy Hughes, 26 years ago, was the last employee of the Boston Braves to hit the no-hit jackpot. Tobin, unquestionably, is

the first man to ever fling a no-hit shutout and also assist himself with a home run.

The tawny twirler retorts almost exclusively to his "butterfly" pitch. He perfected it in 1939, just before he was sold to Boston by the Pirates. It was expedient for him to do so. His speed was vanishing and he had injured his knee, forcing him to fall back on a knuckler.

Tobin has had singular success with it. he pitched a one-hitter in Pittsburgh and last Sunday another one-hitter at national League Field. Ford Mullen of the Phils singled in the sixth inning Sunday, the only hit yielded by Tobin.

Equals 3 Homers as thrill

The burly "butterfly" specialist now has pitched 25 consecutive scoreless innings. He has hurled 12 2-3 consecutive innings without allowing a hit. He has allowed four hits in the 26 innings he has pitched so far in 1944.

Tobe rated his no-hitter right alongside his three homers of May 13, 1942, against the Cubs - which feat matches the record for pitchers in this department. "As a thrill," said Tobin, "it stands right beside those three homers, in my book,"

At no time did Tobin appear to feel the pressure. As the innings wore on, and the 587 servicemen sensed a shutout and commenced rooting uproariously for it. Tobin didn't give a sign of faltering. He opened the ninth by striking out Mike Owen, a dangerous hitter. the Dodgers then inserted frenchy Bordagaray, a mean man to pitch to, as a pinch hitter.

Ryan fielded Frenchy's slow roller to third and buzzed a fast throw which Buck Etchinson reached high for, and in time. Waner then got his pass, and the crowd stormed onto the field when Dixie walker hit to Steve Shemo at second base, a routine grounder, although Shemo made a long throw to first rather than force Waner at second.

The Braves have won two games this season. Tobin has won both. Too bad he ain't ambidextrous, eh?

JANUARY 23, 1966

MARTIN, OLIVER GOALS GIVE B's THIRD IN ROW

By Tom Fitzgerald, The Boston Globe

The Bruins opened up with one of their most sustained shooting barrages in a long spell during the second period of Sunday night's game against the Maple Leafs in the garden. They poured 22 shots at Johnny Bower during that 20-minute segment and two of them, by Pit Martin and Murray Oliver eluded the old boy to provide the margin for a 2-1 victory.

The Bruins needed both of them, because the Leafs got on the scoreboard early in the last period when Tim Horton's low drive from the point deflected freakishly off Bernie Parent's stick over the goal-line.

The victory as enthusiastically greeted by 8047 members of the faithful who braved the treacherous weather conditions to make their way to the contest.

It was an achievement that merited special applause as the

third victory in a row for the Bruins, who hadn't put together such a stretch for more than two years.

Although he seemed capable on the single goal against him, Parent had a good night altogether, especially since he took over the job more or less by default.

Bernie was threatened with an appendicitis attack last Thursday and he normally would have stayed on the sidelines, anyway, in view of the management policy of continuing with a winning goalie.

Eddie Johnston had two to his credit against Chicago and New York, but a badly bruised right forearm from a Jim Neilsen shot late in the New York game Saturday forced Eddie to sit this one out.

As a foremost expert on the matter, he 20-year-old Parent himself probably would have conceded that the most brilliant performer of the occasion was his aged rival, Bower, who is probably cheating a little when he claims to be "only" 41.

Johnny was very tough on the Bruins, particularly in that second period when their attack reached one of its heights of recent seasons.

Eventually Bower was beaten at 13:55 in that period, when Martin was, positioned in front, tipped home a smash from the point by defenseman Al Langlois.

It was the fourth straight goal for Martin in as many games and his sixth in 11 games since coming here in the trade with Detroit.

Johnny McKenzie did an industious job of digging a few minutes later and got the puck across in front to Oliver who made a quick finish from a few yards out at 17:11.

Dean Prentice also got an assist on this one, but some good work had been done previously by Ted Green to keep the attack going inside the Toronto line.

In the last minute, Punch Imlach pulled Bower in favor of an extra shooter, but Parent stood off a couple of close assaults on his net.

DECEMBER 4, 1966

PATRIOTS ON TOP

Pass Rushing Stuns Buffalo In 14-3 Victory

By Will McDonough, The Boston Globe

The Patriots jumped into the driver's seat in the race toward the Eastern Division title by dismantling the proud Buffalo Bills, 14 to 3, in Fenway Park Sunday.

A record partisan crowd of 39,350 forgot the chilly weather as they warmed up to the greatest defensive effort in Patriot history.

"Maybe after today," said defensive tackle Houston Antwine, "some people will finally realize that us 'nothings' are really 'somethings'."

The Patriots were finally something as they paralyzed the Buffalo offense with an overwhelming pass rush and then managed to make the most of their own scoring chances.

"We gave them two opportunities to score," said Buffalo defensive Capt. Harry Jacobs later, "and they made the most of them. I guess that's the kind of team they are. You have to give them credit."

When the debits and credits were tallied at day's end, the

Patriots were back in first place and two short steps from an American Football League championship meeting with the Kansas City Chiefs.

The Patriots, if they do not lose in Houston or New York in the next two weeks, will be the Eastern Division champions and the host team for the league championship game.

Jim Nance and Babe Parilli scored the patriots touchdowns while Booth Lusteg's 11-yard field goal was the only telling offensive gesture in the game.

It was not however an afternoon for offense.

The game belonged to the defensive units of both teams, with the 'nothings' trying to prove that they were better than the 'somethings.'

The "nothings" is what the Patriots have called themselves all week, after a couple of stories saying that the team really didn't have that many outstanding players.

Buffalo, of the other hand, has the reputation of being the best defensive unit in the league.

Sunday they lost that title, and probably the Eastern Division crown when the patriots destroyed the Buffalo offense.

The Bills had control of the ball 66 times in the game and never got into the end zone. Statistically they have the second best rushing offense in the league, yet they could gain only 40 yards on the ground.

On the other hand, Nance pranced 65 yards for the first Boston score, his longest and most important run as a pro.

Parilli, not having his best passing day against a rugged Buffalo defense, ran three yards for the second touchdown.

Actually, the game exploded in Boston's favor in the third period.

The Patriots led 7 to 3 at the half but the Bills were sharper over the first two periods.

However in the third period Buffalo's two chief offensive weapons were shot down. Quarterback Jack Kemp, on a jarring tackle by Larry Eisenhauer, had to leave the game.

"It was a clean shot," said Kemp. "He just hit me hard and caved in my chest."

Was this the most pressure you've had from a pass rush?

"Since the last time we played Boston. They always give you tremendous pressure."

Soon to join Kemp on the injured list was Buffalo's leading runner, Bobby Burnett, who was knocked cold and admitted later: "I don't remember anything in the second half."

He didn't miss anything as far as Buffalo was concerned. In the second half, the Bills never got over mid-field until the final three minutes, and by then it was too late.

The start of the game was contrary to the finish. Buffalo, on its second chance with the ball, marched from its own 10 to the Boston five before settling for an 11 yard field goal with just 3:02 elapsed.

"They made some defensive mistakes against us," said Kemp, "and we took advantage. They didn't make many more mistakes after that."

Buffalo was not to score again. The Bills moved the ball in spurts over the next three periods, but two interceptions, two fumble recoveries and the fierce pass rush kept closing doors.

Seven times Boston's pass rusher - Eisenhauer, Antwine, and Jimmy Hunt - dropped Buffalo quarterbacks Kemp and Daryle Lamonica for losses totaling 52 yards.

In the secondary, the performance was just as brilliant. Tommy Hennessey had a great afternoon on pass defense knocking down five passes and coming up with a big interception in the end zone early in the game.

The Patriots offense was never consistent, but had the

ability to make the big plays.

Nance, who had 109 rushing in 24 carries, made the first one.

With a third and two situation on his own 35, Nance rammed over left guard. Two yards beyond scrimmage he bulled through the arms of middle linebacker Jacobs. Three more yards and he butted way defensive back Hagood Clarke; two more and he spun off cornerman Tom Janik and the race for the goalline was on.

"The whole thing was a blur. I just remember breaking open and seeing a couple of blockers to my right. Then I saw a chance to cut back so I shot the gap and there was no one left."

Tight end Jim Whalen took down safetyman George Saimes at the 15 allowing Nance to skip home with a score that put the Patriots ahead 7 to 3, and to stay.

The only other score in the game came in the third period when the Patriots covered 60 yards for their second score with Parilli figuring in all the big ones.

With third down 12 on his own 38, Parilli found Art Graham cutting through Buffalo's zone pass defense for a 37 yard completion. On the next play he lofted one for Joe Bellino in the right corner. Buffalo's Janik had a chance for an interception, but the ball popped out of his arms and Bellino snatched it from the air before falling on the Buffalo five.

Two downs produced only two yards, but on third Parilli rolled and ran toward his right end slipping through a tackle by end Ron McDole at the one and falling into the end zone.

That made the lead 14 to 3 and the 'nothings' saw to it that things didn't change.

A little later, Kemp was stretched and Lamonica was fetched. A supposed scrambler, Lamonica was dumped three times for long losses and fumbled the ball over to Boston on two other occasions.

The Patriots nursed the lead into the final minute and tried to add to it with a 43 yard field goal by Gino Cappalletti. Jim Dunaway of Buffalo blocked the kick and linebacker John Tracy picked it up and started running for what appeared to be a sure touchdown.

But at the Boston 40 he tripped and fell. With the clock running out the Bills moved to the Boston one where Burnett's sub, Alan Smith, tried to slice over tackle for a touchdown on the last play of the game.

"There was no way he was going to get into that end zone," said Nick Buoniconti later. "I'd bet on it before the play started."

Even when they had the game wrapped up, the 'nothings' didn't want to concede the 'somethings' anything.